

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ☐
no ☒

Property Name: Scott's Chapel Inventory Number: D-270
Address: West side of Bucktown Road Historic district: ☐ yes ☒ no
City: Cambridge Zip Code: 21613 County: Dorchester
USGS Quadrangle(s): Blackwater River
Property Owner: Bucktown M.E. Church Tax Account ID Number: 003394
Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 19 Tax Map Number: 63
Project: Proposed Tower Site: Bucktown, Dorchester County, Maryland Agency: Maryland Dept. of Budget and Management
Agency Prepared By: A.D. Marble & Company
Preparer's Name: Stacey Streett and Stephanie Foell Date Prepared: 6/24/2005
Documentation is presented in: Proposed Tower Site: Bucktown, Dorchester County, Maryland
Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: ☒ Eligibility recommended ☐ Eligibility not recommended
Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G
Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:
Name of the District/Property: _____
Inventory Number: _____ Eligible: ☐ yes Listed: ☐ yes
Site visit by MHT Staff ☐ yes ☒ no Name: _____ Date: _____

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

Architectural Description:

Please refer to MIHP Form D-270 for prior survey information.

Scott's Chapel (D-270) is located on the west side of Bucktown Road in Cambridge, only one-half mile north of Bucktown. The chapel was constructed in 1891. A corner stone indicates that John Scott donated the property to the church on June 8, 1858. A plaque located above the entrance reads:

Scott's Chapel
1812-1891
Bucktown
Methodist Church

The one-story, rectangular chapel is a modest, gable-front, frame building. It is three bays wide by three rooms deep. The chapel features architectural elements of the Gothic Revival style. The building is sided in clapboard. A raised brick foundation supports

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

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MHT Comments:

Andrew Lewis
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

7/11/05

Date

Blumentz
Reviewer, National Register Program

7/11/05

Date

200501970

the building. A poured-concrete ramp and brick steps reach the paneled-wood, double-door entrance, located on the symmetrical façade, which faces east. Lancet windows are located on either side of the entrance, a multi-pane, triangular window tops the entrance, and a small, multi-pane, colored-glass, circular window is centered in the front gable. Multi-sash, double-hung, lancet windows comprise all of the fenestration. A row of three, symmetrical, lancet windows lights the north and south elevations. A three-sided apse is located on the west elevation. It is a one-bay-wide, gable-roof projection, which contains single, lancet windows on the north and south elevations.

A pyramidal-topped, square tower punctuates the ridge at the façade, above the apex of the front gable. Interior, brick chimney stacks, located between the lancet windows on the side elevations, rise from the north and south slopes of the roof. They are located close to the eaves. Corbelled arches cap the chimneys.

An architectural modification has been made to the exterior since the survey was conducted in 1975. The chapel and the church hall were originally separate buildings; now they are connected by a hyphen from the south elevation of the chapel to the north elevation of the church hall. The church hall is a one-story, side-gable building constructed of cinder block. A pair of double-doors is located on the façade, which faces east. One-over-one, double-hung sash windows comprise the fenestration on the building. Brick sills accent the windows, which contrast against the heavy, cinder-block construction. A cinder-block chimney rises from the northwest portion of the roof slope, near the ridge. Asphalt shingles cover the roofs of both buildings.

A frame, shed-roof outbuilding is located between two mature trees behind the apse of the church. A stand of mature deciduous and coniferous trees are located west of the church and border along the cemetery. Portions of the church cemetery are located on the east side of Bucktown Road and to the west of the church. Segregated graveyards on the church grounds from the nineteenth century indicate the church congregation included both enslaved and free African Americans and Caucasians (see Harriet Tubman and Underground Railroad brochures, 2000).

Interior access was not granted as part of this survey.

Significance

General Project Area Description

Bucktown, Maryland, is located in Dorchester County, approximately ten miles south of Cambridge. Bucktown is primarily an agricultural area that is adjacent to the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge. The terrain is relatively flat with the large majority of land used for agricultural purposes. The project area directly abuts the Little Blackwater River on the west, and much of the terrain is marshland in this area. The project area has a low level of elevation, approximately 5 feet above sea level.

Primary crops grown in Bucktown include corn and soybeans. Large industrial poultry houses of recent dates of construction are also present on several farms. Portions of the project area adjacent to the Blackwater Wildlife Refuge have a substantial tree canopy flanking the roadways.

History of Bucktown

Bucktown was formed from the land holdings of Bartholomew Ennalls. A native of York County, Virginia, Ennalls owned thousands of acres of land in southern Maryland in the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries. Virtually no scholarly information exists on the establishment or development of Bucktown. It is largely ignored in scholarly histories of Dorchester County, and few primary or secondary resources relating to the town are available. A detailed review of maps of Dorchester

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

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Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Date

Reviewer, National Register Program

Date

County indicates that the name Bucktown first appears on maps in the late eighteenth century.

It is described as "five miles from a railroad station. A fertile farming country surrounds it. . . . about forty people in ten or twelve dwellings measure the size of the quiet town where the ring of the hammer on the blacksmith's anvil is no more heard. No town growth."

Tobacco was the primary crop cultivated in the area. It was exported to England for sale, and provided a certain degree of wealth to many of the tobacco plantation owners. After the onset of the Revolutionary War, when trade with England was suspended, corn, wheat, and rye plantings replaced tobacco as the most prominent agricultural crops. Livestock were also raised in larger numbers. The crops and animals were used for both home consumption and to supply the army. These crops remained the primary products planted until after the Civil War. After that time, grain crops became less common.

Bucktown is perhaps best known for its association with Harriet Tubman, a slave who was a critical figure in the Underground Railroad. Because Tubman was born into slavery, very little precise information about her early life is available. Consequently, much misinformation about Tubman has been disseminated throughout time. Reliable sources indicate that she was born circa 1820, possibly in or near Bucktown.

She spent her earliest years at the Brodess plantation, which was located just outside of Bucktown. Later, she moved with her owner to other locations within a ten-mile radius of Bucktown. Local tradition states that Tubman may have received a severe head wound that afflicted her for the rest of her life at the Bucktown Store in the 1830s. However, the present Bucktown store was not constructed until circa 1870, according to Dorchester County tax records, so the extant store could not have been the site of the encounter. Her family worshipped at Bazel's Chapel. The original building associated with Tubman's family burned and the present chapel was constructed circa 1911.

Tubman gained her freedom in 1849, when she escaped to Philadelphia. She eventually settled in Auburn, New York, where she established a home for elderly former slaves. Three buildings in Auburn with associations to Tubman have been designated National Historic Landmarks by the Secretary of the Interior. These include her own residence, the Harriet Tubman House, and the Harriet Tubman Home for the Aged. The church where she worshiped in Auburn, Thompson AME Zion Church is also designated.

Historic Resources in Bucktown

Relatively few built resources are present within the Bucktown vicinity. This is due to the prevalence of large swaths of agricultural land in cultivation. The majority of buildings in Bucktown are residences. Almost all of the buildings more than 50 years of age are farmhouses from the late nineteenth or early twentieth centuries. Most of the residences retain their basic forms, which include I-houses and smaller cottages. Many of the residences have side or rear additions. Most have been re-sided in either aluminum siding or asbestos shingles. Replacement windows and enclosed porches are other common alterations. The conditions of the residences range from excellent to poor, with several near collapse.

Few historic agricultural buildings associated with the farmhouses remain (although several of the properties were inaccessible and only farmhouses were visible from the right-of-way). New agricultural buildings consist primarily of large-scale poultry houses sheathed in metal.

An abundance of houses dating from the late 1950s through the present are found in Bucktown. Most are modest, single-story houses with minimal architectural detail. These newer houses are located on small plots of land in linear patterns, unlike the houses of earlier eras, which were located on large plots of farmland.

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Several modest frame chapels are located in the vicinity of Bucktown. They are associated with African-American congregations in the area.

The Bucktown Store is the sole resource associated with commerce in the area. As with other general stores in small towns, it likely served the town with basic supplies. However, Bucktown's proximity to Cambridge allowed for a reasonable commute into the larger city for commercial goods.

The historic and cultural landscape within Bucktown conveys the historic agricultural use of the land. Although historic crops in Dorchester County included tobacco and grains and not the currently omnipresent soybeans, the land has remained cleared and used for agricultural purposes. Other components of the landscape are used as part of the Blackwater Wildlife Refuge and appear to be in their pristine natural condition. Substantial sections of the region, most notably in the area surrounding the wildlife refuge, are covered with thick stands of tall trees.

Methodist Church Buildings

The Methodist religion is historically most concentrated in the Eastern Shore region of Delaware and Maryland (Williams 1997:59). The first rural, African-American Methodist Church was established in 1847 by free African-American slaves in Cumberland, Maryland (Chiat 1997:223). Rural Methodist chapels were not architecturally ostentatious, but modest gable-end structures, similar to early meetinghouses. Scott's Chapel is contemporary with a group of Methodist churches that experienced a distinctive pattern of architecture in the lower Eastern Shore region. During the nineteenth century, Methodist congregations traditionally worshipped in modest, symmetrical, frame buildings.

Determination of Eligibility

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- A. that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B. that are associated with the lives of significant persons in our past; or
- C. that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- D. that have yielded or may be likely to yield, information important in history or prehistory.

Scott's Chapel is an example of a vernacular interpretation of Gothic-Revival religious architecture. It is a more sophisticated form than Bazel's Chapel (D-274), located south of Bucktown Road. The chapel is similar to other churches in date of construction, building form, and architectural detail. No information on the builder or architect was uncovered during research.

Scott's Chapel is eligible for individual listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The building is not associated with significant events or people that would make it eligible under Criteria A or B. Scott's Chapel is eligible under Criterion C. It is an

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excellent example of a small, rural, vernacular church with elements of the Gothic Revival style. The chapel contains high degrees of integrity of design, materials, and workmanship. Although the building has been altered by the addition of the hyphen, the building continues to convey its original function as a rural chapel. The integrity of the surrounding landscape, including the cemetery, contributes to the eligibility determination. The property was not evaluated under Criterion D.

Bibliography

Chiat, Marilyn J. *America's Religious Architecture: Sacred Places for Every Community*. Preservation Press and John Wiley and Sons, Inc., New York, 1997.

Finding a Way to Freedom Driving Tour: The Underground Railroad in Dorchester and Caroline Counties in the 1850s. Brochure. Heart of Chesapeake Country Heritage Area, Cambridge, Maryland, with support from the National Park Service; Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network; Dorchester and Caroline Counties, MD; and the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority.

Harriet Tubman...American patriot and the icon for what is known as the Underground Railroad was born in Dorchester County, MD. Brochure. Dorchester County Department of Tourism, Cambridge, Maryland. Edited reprint from the MD Commission for Celebration 2000.

Weeks, Christopher, ed. *Between the Nanticoke and the Choptank: An Architectural History of Dorchester County, Maryland*. Baltimore and London: The Johns Hopkins University Press and the Maryland Historical Trust, 1984.

Williams, Peter W. *Houses of God: Region, Religion, and Architecture in the United States*. Series: Public Expressions of Religion in America. Conrad Cherry, ed. University of Illinois Press in cooperation with the Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture, Indiana University—Purdue University at Indianapolis, 1997.

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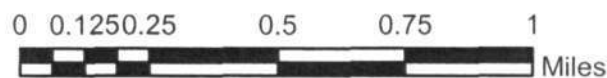
Date

Reviewer, National Register Program

Date



Scott's Chapel (D-270), West Side of Bucktown Road
Proposed Tower
Bucktown, Dorchester County, Maryland
Blackwater River USGS Quadrangle





D-270

Scott's Chapel
Dorchester County, MD

S. Street

4/2005

MD SHPO

Northeast elevation and view of property

1/7



D-270

Scott's Chapel

Dorchester County, MD

S. Streett

4/2005

MD SHPD

Southeast elevation

2/7

new 2/7/05 10:00-10:00



D-270

Scott's Chapel
Dorchester County, MD

S. Street

4/2005

MD SHPO

South elevation and view of west cemetery

3/7



D-270

Scott's Chapel

Dorchester County, MD

S. Streett

4/2005

MD SHPO

West elevation and outbuilding

4/7



D-270

Seeth's Chapel

Dorchester County, MD

S. Streett

4/2005

MD SHPO

Cemetery on east side of Bucktown Rd.

5/7 (East of church building)

presented
by
John Scott
June 8th 1858

D-270

Sectt's Chapel

Dorchester County, MD

S. Streett

4/2005

MD SHPD

Cornerstone of Sectt's Chapel

6/7



D-270
Scot's Chapel
Dorchester County, MD

S. Street

4/2005

MD SHPO

View of cemetery east of church building

7/7

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

1. NAME					
COMMON:					
Scott's Chapel					
AND/OR HISTORIC:					
2. LOCATION					
STREET AND NUMBER:					
Bucktown Road, .5 mile north of Bucktown					
CITY OR TOWN:					
Cambridge					
STATE			COUNTY:		
Maryland			Dorchester		
3. CLASSIFICATION					
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building	<input type="checkbox"/> Public	Public Acquisition:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied	Yes:
<input type="checkbox"/> Site	<input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private	<input type="checkbox"/> In Process	<input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted
<input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress		<input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)					
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments	
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious			
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific			
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY					
OWNER'S NAME:					
Scott's Chapel					
STREET AND NUMBER:					
RFD					
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:		
Cambridge			Maryland		21613
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION					
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:					
Dorchester County Courthouse					
STREET AND NUMBER:					
High Street					
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE		
Cambridge			Maryland		21613
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):					
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS					
TITLE OF SURVEY:					
DATE OF SURVEY:					
<input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local					
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:					
STREET AND NUMBER:					
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:		

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

One half mile north of Bucktown stands Scott's Chapel, a small frame chapel constructed in 1891. Above the entrance is a plaque which reads:

Scott's Chapel
1812-1891
Bucktown
Methodist Church

There is also a corner stone which indicates that the land on which the church and graveyard stand was donated by John Scott, June 8, 1858.

The building stands on a brick foundation which probably replaces the old brick piers. Its walls are covered with German siding and all of the windows and doors have miter arches. The principle facade is the east gable and its central double door with transom is flanked by two windows. Near the top of the gable is a small circular window identical to the window on St. John's Church, near Kirwan Neck. A tower, composed of a square base and pyramidal roof, sits on the roof above the latter window.

On the south side of the building, the westernmost of the three windows have been converted into a door for easy access to the church hall. On the back or west gable is a small bay-window-like extension with two small windows on the facets closest the body of the building. Most of these extensions on Methodist chapels are rectangular rather than semi-octangular which this one is. Between the two western bays on both sides of the building are chimney flues within the structure.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian ☐ 16th Century ☐ 18th Century ☐ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Scott's Chapel is an important structure, and one which is well maintained, in this area of the county. John Scott, who gave the land for the chapel probably lived on the adjoining farm which had an old house until about twenty years ago. Some of the stones in the older portion of the graveyard bear the names of: Pitt, Rich, Scott, Lucas, the Scott stones dating from 1792.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 ' "	0 ' "		0 ' "	0 ' "	
NE	0 ' "	0 ' "		0 ' "	0 ' "	
SE	0 ' "	0 ' "		0 ' "	0 ' "	
SW	0 ' "	0 ' "		0 ' "	0 ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:		COUNTY:	
STATE:		COUNTY:	
STATE:		COUNTY:	
STATE:		COUNTY:	

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:	
Michael Bourne, Architectural Consultant	
ORGANIZATION	DATE
Maryland Historical Trust	Nov, 1975
STREET AND NUMBER:	
Shaw House, 21 State Circle	
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE
Annapolis	Maryland
	21401

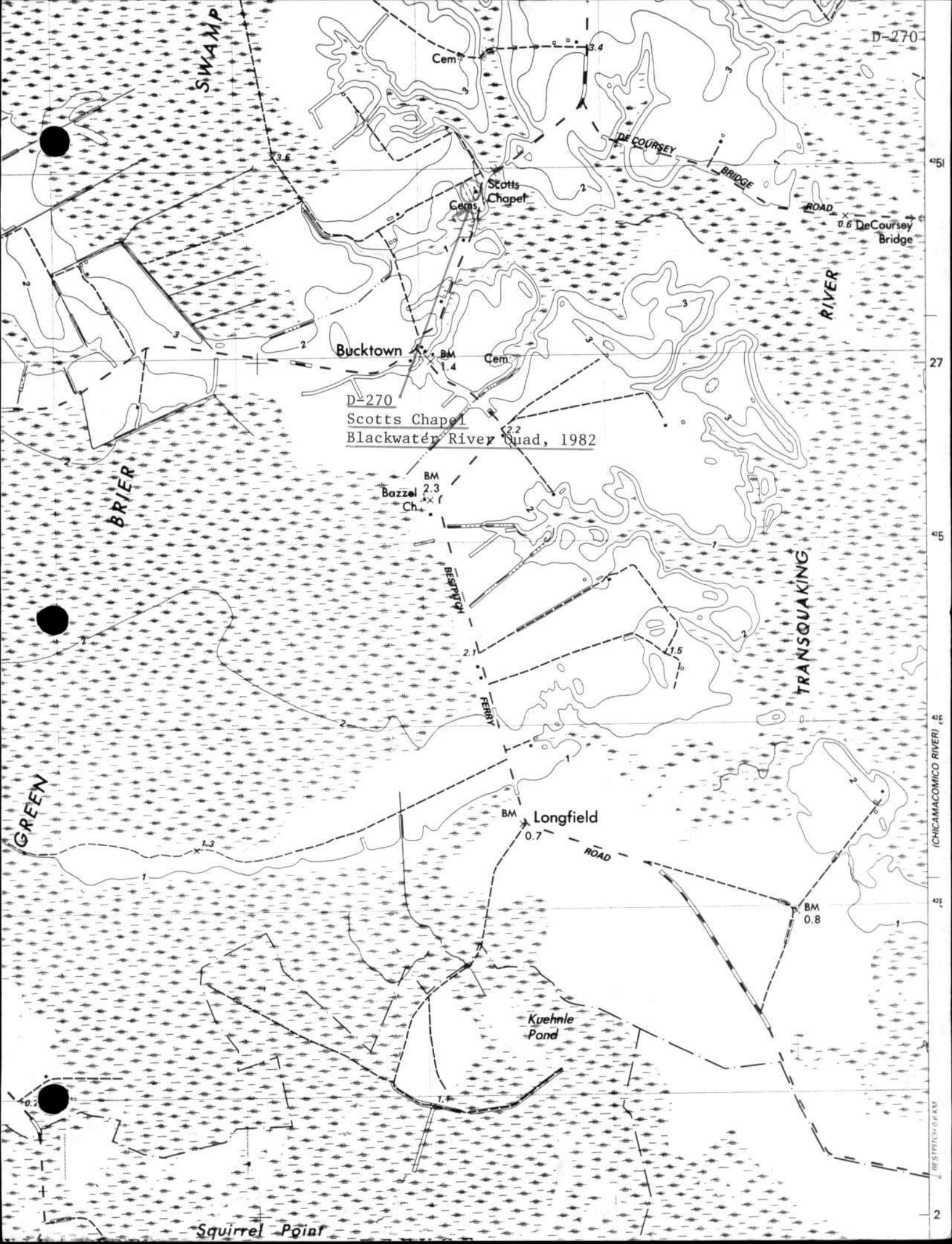
12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



D-270

45

27

45

45

42

RE STRICH 06 AM

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121164

50%

D-270



Scott's Chapel

D 270

M. Bourne Nov 1975